# REGISTER OF CLASSIFICATION DECISIONS

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| Date of entry in Register: | 28 July 1997 |
| Name of applicant/court: | Comptroller of Customs |
| Applicant to the Labelling Body: | Not Applicable |
| Title of Publication: | Apollo Boy Bound Muscle / Apollo Boy Agony / Untitled |
| Other Known Titles: | Apollo Boy: Bound Muscle / Apollo Boy: Agony |
| Director: | Not Stated |
| Producer: | Not Stated |
| Publisher: | Not Applicable |
| Author: | Not Applicable |
| Format: | Video Recording VHS/PAL |
| Country of Origin: | USA |
| Language: | English |

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**Components of film originally examined:**

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| Feature: | Apollo Boy Bound Muscle | Running time: | 65.32 |
| | Apollo Boy Agony | | 53.27 |
| | Untitled | | 32.35 |
| Trailers: | Apollo Notice | Running time: | 0.09 |
| | Copyright Notice | | 0.08 |
| | Apollo Ventures Notice | | 0.07 |
| | Adults Only Notice | | 0.50 |
| | Copyright Notice | | 0.08 |
| | Apollo Ventures Notice | | 0.08 |
| | Adults Only Notice | | 0.22 |
| | Blank Screen | | 1.01 |
| | | Total Running time: | 154.27 |

Excision/Alteration: No.

Reason(s) for Excision:

Not Applicable.

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Classification Decision:

Objectionable.

Display conditions:

Not Applicable.

Descriptive Note:

Not Applicable.

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Direction to issue a label has not been given.

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**SUMMARY OF THE REASONS FOR DECISION:**

The video recording entitled *Apollo Boy Bound Muscle / Apollo Boy Agony / Untitled* is classified as:
Objectionable.

The publication is a video recording containing explicit depictions of sadomasochistic sexual activity shown in a manner intended to titillate. It contains a depiction of a hooded man kidnapping another man and subjecting him to sadomasochistic sexual activity. Because the man is presented as an unwilling participant and his pain is focused upon, this amounts to the publication promoting and supporting the use of violence and coercion to compel a person to submit to sexual conduct. The video recording also contains depictions of acts of extreme violence and cruelty such as harsh whipping and the pouring of a saucepan full of hot wax over a man's back and buttocks. The sexual violation and abduction are presented as normal and acceptable sexual behaviour. Given the titillating manner in which these acts are presented, *Apollo Boy Bound Muscle / Apollo Boy Agony / Untitled* promotes and supports acts of extreme violence. Consideration has been made of section 14 of the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990 (NZBR Act), but s3(2) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993 (FVPC Act) overrides the NZBR Act because it is a deeming provision which cannot, in this instance, be given a meaning consistent with the rights enacted in the NZBR Act.

OFLC Ref: 9601559